

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 4 and 6 have been amended; and claims 2-3, 5 and 7-8 have been canceled. Claims 1, 4 and 6 remain in the application.

Claims 3-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph; claims 1, 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ash or Forsell, et al.; claims 1, 3-4 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cunningham; and claims 2, 5-6 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Cunningham in view of Bernciser, Warwzyniak or Nasiell.

Claim 1 has been amended to overcome the above mentioned rejections, and Claims 4 and 6 have been amended to show proper dependency. The basis for the amendments to claim 1 is found in the specification at page 2, lines 11-16; and page 4, lines 11-18.

The "tensioning bands" of the prior art include a slidable rigid sleeve (Bernciser, element 20); a sleeve to protect the sidewall of a cover from exterior damage (Warwzyniak, element 50); and an O-ring slipped over a cylindrical wall member with elongated slits to close the flexible jaws to fit a smaller nut size.

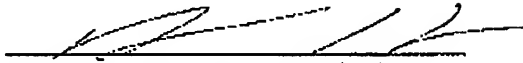
Amended claim 1 includes the limitations of original claims 2 and 3 and further defines the intermediate portion of the cap engaging member. The "tensioning bands" of the cited prior art are distinct from the tensioning band of the present invention which acts to limit the travel of the cap into the passageway past the tensioning band. This leaves an intermediate portion of the cap engaging member that can be deformed out of alignment with the rigid shaft of the tool to access a valve stem cap on the inner wheel that is not aligned to point straight at the holes in the outer wheel.

In view of the above, it is believed that all remaining claims are now in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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